

Grace Church Visitor

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FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

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No. 4

OUR PROGREDIA GIRLS

Edith Shiffer-Benninghoff

From the Latin word "Progredior" has come a name which has for nearly four years been familiar and prominent in Grace church Sunday School. It was due to the earnest efforts and determination of our superintendent, who in spite of his numerous cares and responsibilities in connection with his of-

and the receipt of the charter shortly thereafter, the organization was complete. With his desires realized and the class well established, Mr. Walter Close was the following year relieved of the responsibility of teacher, and leadership of the class was temporarily assumed by Edith Shiffer-Benninghoff,



fice, still found time to teach a class, that six or seven young women with a like determination, met at his home one stormy, snowy night in the month of February, 1914, and became an organized Adult Bible Class. Officers for the year were elected and a committee for the drawing up of a constitution appointed. The following Sunday, immediately after class, a called meeting was held and the name "Progredia," meaning to press onward, was chosen as was also a class motto and class colors, and with the adoption of the constitution at the next regular meeting

and for the past year and a half, the class has continued to move steadily forward under the efficient direction of Mrs. Edward C. Close.

While we have made no great strides, yet each succeeding year has found added names on the Progredia roll, each name signifying the true "Progredia" spirit and a willingness for humble service. Seemingly has our superintendent realized this willingness and has found avenues of placing it into actual practice, for from the Progredia Class have come several of the teachers for the newer classes of the Sunday

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OUR PROGREDIA GIRLS

(Concluded.)

School and no financial obligation or opportunity to give has yet arisen, but that the Progredia Class was ready to do its part.

The Master's great example was that of humble service, the service made easy through love for one's neighbor and as we meditate upon the lowly life He lived among men, we pray that we may be filled with the spirit of His life, be swift to see the opportunities for serving, and just as He "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister," may we meet the ideal we find in Him and even follow the "Greatest."

He who was greater than seraph or angel

Had not where to pillow his head.

So eager was he to proclaim his evangel,

And bind up the spirits that bled:

He calls little children to fondest embraces,

The stricken and poor are his friends;

The humble he clothes with his radiant graces,

And peace to the contrite he sends.

Oh, may we be like him! Our highest ambition

To "serve one another in love;"

In his name to accomplish life's worthiest mission—

The cross, then the crowning above!

—(E. E. Hewitt.)

Miss Margaret Sorgan spent Sunday with her parents in Kenton, O., recently.

Mr. Ralph Siebold and Daniel Copenhagen, of the Agenda Class, are able to be in the Sunday School again.

The book of Mark is being studied at the Wednesday evening prayer meetings. Many interesting points have been brought out by Rev. Mr. Schaaf. When the study of this book is finished it is the plan to take up the study of another book of the Bible. You are missing something good if you are not attending these meetings.

STAPLETON

The many friends of Mrs. Chas. Stapleton were deeply grieved when on May 8th, the news came of her death. An invalid for some time, Mrs. Stapleton was to be found at the services of Grace church whenever her health would permit. Shortly before her death, the family removed to a farm near Magill, Ohio, and it was there her demise occurred. Funeral services were conducted at the home by the pastor, a large concourse of relatives and friends being present. Interment was at the New Haven, Indiana, cemetery.

CHILDREN'S DAY

The second Sunday in June is Children's Day and our Sunday School will, of course, observe it. This is the big day of the year when the churches and Sunday Schools honor the children. We will have special exercises for them. Let every one arrange to get out for the services on June 10th. Children, invite your parents and friends to come with you and make Children's Day, 1917, one to be remembered. We ought to have not less than 250 in Sunday School that day.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Rogers have moved to their new home at 2202 Drexel boulevard, where they are most pleasantly located.

Mr. and Mrs. Weist and Mr. and Mrs. Buzzard, of Huntington, Ind., were the guests of Mrs. Mary Gooley, of Masterson avenue, Thursday, May 24th.

Robert Bitner is the first young man in Grace Church to offer himself to his country in the present emergency. He has joined the Hospital Corps of the regular army, and the last time he wrote home he was at Ft. Leavenworth, Kas. Besides being a very active member of the Agenda Class he was teaching a class of boys in the Sunday School and will be greatly missed. His early and safe return will be prayerfully hoped for.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

W. F. Close, Supt.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

The Junior Helps Class held their March business meeting at the home of Miss Kathryn Close on Penn Place.

* * *

Have you noticed the increased attendance of that Heidelberg Class, also of the Men's and Ladies' Bible Classes?

* * *

With the advent of Spring we should make every effort to push our Sunday School work. The coming three months should, and will, be successful if we each decide to "do what we can."

* * *

Are you watching the chart in the Sunday School room? It gives the attendance and offering for today, a week ago and a year ago today, as well as the increasing enrollment. It will do you good to study it.

* * *

Some of the classes, who have been using the graded lessons, contemplate changing to the International series. If any of the other classes wish to make this change, they will please consult the superintendent about it.

* * *

Thanks to the generosity of several classes, the Sunday School debt has been brought down to \$84.00. We are determined to wipe out this debt and pay cash for all our supplies during this year. And we can do it!

* * *

The attendance in the Sunday School since the Increase Campaign has been remarkably good, in fact we are more than pleased with the way the classes interest their members. Let us keep it up during the Summer.

* * *

What about the babies under four years of age for the cradle roll? Look at the names on the Stars in the Primary room and then let Mrs. Walter

Close know of any that we may not have. We want to greatly increase our Cradle Roll membership.

* * *

Mr. R. S. Deahl, who has been the teacher of the Excelsior Class, has resigned and will devote his time to the presidency of the Agenda Class. Mr. Calvin H. Ruhl has consented to teach the class. Mr. Ruhl is an able and experienced teacher and we bespeak success for him.

* * *

The Zwingly Class has begun a contest with the Men's Bible Class. Of course, we will win; we ask and expect all the ladies to help us win. This can be done, not only by attending our class, but also by joining it. Every lady knows how hard it is for a woman to get money; therefore, help us, and make the men pay, for the losing side must entertain the other side with a banquet.

AGENDA NEWS

At the May meeting held at the church on Monday, May 28th, the following class officers were elected: President, Ray Deahl; vice-president, Howard Gumper; secretary, E. Baumgartner; treasurer, Clarence Aiken; assistant secretary, Floyd Siebold. The president, secretary and treasurer have served so efficiently they were re-elected. Howard Gumper as vice-president, succeeds Robert Bitner, who is now in the Hospital Corps of the U. S. Army.

* * *

Plans have been made for the annual class banquet to be held on Friday, June 22nd, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Aiken, 1027 Columbia avenue. The Social Committee is in charge and it is certain to be a great success.

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GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

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Class.

George M. Shiffer.....Editor-in-Chief
E. W. Baumgartner.....Business Manager
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The PROGRED A GIRLS

A large part of this month's Visitor is devoted to the Progreda Class, who make a most creditable showing. It is hard to overestimate the work of this class of young ladies, and the church is proud of them. Due to the class activities—serious and social—a goodly number of young ladies have become church members for which the church is grateful. May the class grow and prosper and do its good work for many years to come.

We must needs thank the merchants who by their ads in "The Visitor" are contributing much to its financial success. The members of Grace Church can make advertising in "The Visitor" pay by patronizing all these friends of their church. And, after all, why not? "Turn about is fair play."

Miss Elizabeth Laur spent Sunday recently visiting her parents in Huntington, Ind.

Miss Mary Troup has been the guest of her parents, who reside in Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Heyman and daughter, Dorothy Jane, spent the first week of May in Milwaukee and Chicago, visiting friends.

We regret to learn that one of our number, Miss Bessie Chausse, appears to have come in contact with a "measle germ" and we extend to her our wishes for a speedy recovery.

Smile a smile; when you smile
Another smiles and soon there's miles
and miles

Of smiles, and life's worth while
If you but smile.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

(Concluded from Page 3.)

HEIDELBERG CLASS

We are pleased to announce that the net proceeds of our entertainment were \$28.50. We desire to thank those who attended and especially those who built up the platform and took it down, their help being greatly appreciated by the class.

Mrs. Kessler and Mrs. Dissler have both recently undergone operations for tonsil affections. We wish for them a speedy recovery.

The next business meeting of the class will be held on Friday afternoon, June 29th, with Mrs. E. A. Close, in Penn Place.

PROGRED A ECHOES

Our teacher, Mrs. E. C. Close, was hostess for the regular monthly business meeting for April at her home on Washington Boulevard East. As usual the business session was an interesting one, though immediately upon adjournment business was forgotten and another one of those regular "Progreda good times" followed.

For the first time in many months has the angel of death invaded one of our homes and removed from it a loving mother. We shall always remember her smiling face and appreciate the numerous occasions on which her home was open to the Progreda Class. To the bereaved family we extend our sincerest sympathy and commend them to our Heavenly Father Who "doeth all things well," and Who alone can comfort them. May the sunshine of His love shine through the dark clouds and lighten their sorrowing hearts.

Why not save and bind your copies of The Visitor? They will make interesting reading as time goes by.

THE LADIES' WORK

"God loveth a cheerful giver" applies to our service as well as our purse.

Meeting of Doremus Guild, Thursday afternoon, June 7, at 2:30 o'clock. All day sewing on same day.

There is only one woman in the Missionary Society to every fifteen women in the whole Reformed Denomination.

The Parcel Post Sale was a great success, both socially and financially. Packages were received from many different states.

Mrs. Frank Leikauf and Miss Elizabeth Rudisill were elected delegates to St. Joseph Classical Missionary Society, which meets at White Pigeon, Mich., June 5.

Social afternoon June 28th, at the home of Mrs. Walter Close. Assisting hostesses are Mesdames Frank Leikauf, McAfee, Zimmerman, Baltzell, Weiler, Leslie Hills, Bryant, Frank Moore, Ed. Heyman, Wilbert.

Mrs. Nellie Hildabrand kindly consented to take some of our ladies to the country to call on the Evard and Chaussee families, members of our church. The ladies who accompanied Mrs. Hildabrand were Mrs. Ed Close, Mrs. Hazard, Mrs. Knight and Mrs. Boeger.

The Woman Missionary Society will meet Thursday afternoon, June 21, with Mrs. Dan Muller. Mrs. John Brewer has the Bible lesson from Luke 16; 19-31. Special prayer for Mrs. David B. Sehneider. Evangelistic and school work, Sendi, Japan.

The Mary B. Hoy Missionary Circle met at the home of Mrs. Leikauf, on Washington boulevard, East, Monday evening, May 7th. Miss Ruth Gumper led. This circle meets once a month to study missions. Every young lady of

the church is welcome. Can you plan to meet with us? You would surely enjoy it.

The women of Grace Church will avail themselves of the opportunity of doing their share towards supplying the Red Cross Association with knitted garments, wash cloths, etc., just as soon as the right kind of material required can be purchased. Certain kinds of yarns must be used, and Fort Wayne merchants are waiting for their shipments now.

CHURCH BREVITIES

Mrs. Oscar Snook and Miss Lottie Weiler have been recent victims of quinsy.

The contest is on—ask any of the Zwnglians.

June—the month of fair weather. Each Sunday a Go-to-Church Sunday.

Mrs. Chas. Gumper has recently returned from the Woman's Missionary Society of General Synod which convened at Akron, Ohio.

Mrs. H. P. Schuyler, of Minneapolis, Minn., a former member of Grace church, was a recent visitor at our services.

The pastor was one of the speakers at the exercises held in the Majestic theatre on Memorial Sunday.

The Sunday School is working on a high level—Are you helping?

Mr. Earl Dinger expects to engage in Y. M. C. A. work in Coatesville, Pa., during the Summer months.

Church membership means the observance of certain duties. Let us all help.

Miss Bessie Chaussee of the Progreda Class has been ill for some time and we are glad to learn that she is slowly improving.

Mr. Snyder, of Cass street, has recovered from a short illness and is able to be out again.

Mrs. Mary Gooley and Miss Loretta Gooley spent a Sunday recently in Huntington, visiting relatives and friends.

CROWDED OUT LAST MONTH

Margaret Metzner is ill at her home, on Wildwood Avenue, but is recovering slowly.

Our pastor loves to hear about Indians. Can anyone tell him an Indian story?

Mrs. Charles Gumper will attend the meeting of General Synodical Missionary Society at Akron, O., May 22-24.

Mr. A. Jones is now singing at the First Baptist Church and we feel his absence. He has been succeeded by Mr. Barber, who is also an able singer.

We are informed that Mr. Darrel Copenhaver, who has been very ill with typhoid fever, is improving, and we hope to see him back with us in a short time.

Meeting of Woman's Missionary Society Thursday afternoon, May 17, at home of Mrs. Jack Straub, Archer Ave. Mrs. Edward Heyman leads the meeting.

The pastor has started a series of three sermons on the "Feeding of the Five Thousand." March 18 he spoke on the subject "Hungry Hearts," and March 25th on "Insignificant Things Made Great."

Grace Church has much reason to be proud of its Easter services. The morning communion service had the largest attendance for a good many years, and the Sunday School attendance of 219 was a record-breaker.

Our pastor has said in the course of his sermons:

"Those things which make men responsible to God also help to carry out that responsibility."

"A man is no stronger than his character."

"Jesus used the ordinary affairs of life to call the mind, heart and soul of man to the higher ideals of truth."

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C. E. TOPICS FOR JUNE

June 3. Confidence and How to Get It. Neh. 6; 1-16. Consecration meeting. Prayer meeting committee.

June 10. Sins of the Mind. Rom. 8; 1-11. Ray Deahl.

June 17. What is Reverence and Why Should We be Reverent? Heb. 12; 18-29. Loretta Gooley.

June 24. Mission Work in Our Cities. Ps. 87; 1-7. Missionary committee.

The Social Committee of the C. E. Society gave a Pin Social in the church parlors on the evening of the 24th. Games were the feature of the evening. Light refreshments were served and everybody reported a fine time.

WANTED—Every young man and woman in Grace Church to come to the C. E. meetings every Sunday evening at 6:45. We are sure the meetings will be a help to you and we need your presence to help us. Older people always welcome.

The Flower Committee who had charge of the decorations for Easter, wishes to thank the members of Grace Church in this manner for the liberal response, which was greatly appreciated. This enabled us to provide the lovely flowers. After the services these were sent to the aged and sick of the church.

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